
Simulation-Based Dynamic Traffic Assignment Education and Deployment

- Status and Future Plans

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Presentation for TMIP

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Self Introduction

- Ph.D. Transportation Engineering University of Texas at Austin, 2002
- Faculty, Civil Engineering, Univ. of Arizona
- DTA development
 - DYNASMART-P since 1995
 - DynusT since 2002
- DTA education outreach
 - FHWA DTA program since 2005
 - TRB ADB30 Network Modeling Committee
- DTA deployments
 - FHWA DTA program

DTA and Planning/Operations Professional Community

- Increased connections between planning and operations
- Need for representing time-sensitive network traffic
 - Represent congestion (spatially and temporally)
 - Capture system response to demand-supply scenarios (capacity improvement, pricing, corridor system operations and planning, etc.)
- Increased awareness (people are talking about DTA!)
- Heightened confusion
 - What is DTA?
 - Do all software packages have similar DTA algorithms?
 - If not, how can one be equipped to know/ask what he/she is getting from different software?

Education and Demonstration are the KEY

■ Education activities

□ FHWA DTA program

- Training workshop opportunities
- Assistance by FHWA Resource Center (Pihl, Tran, Fok)

□ “DTA Primer” by TRB ADB30 Network Modeling Committee

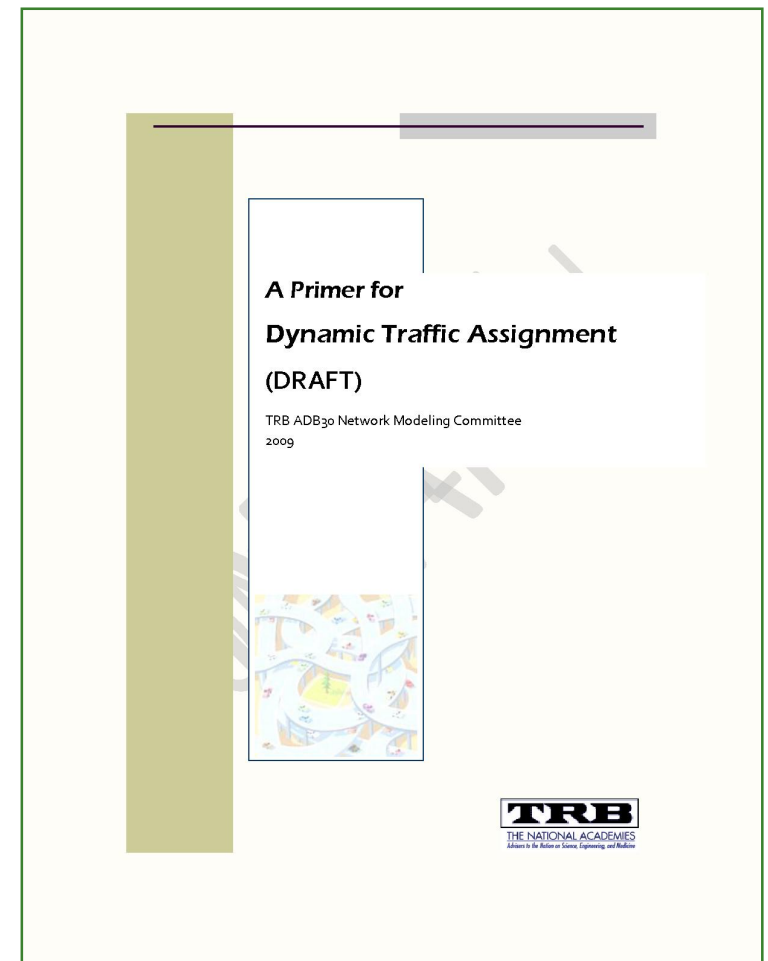
- A language neutral, model independent source guide
- Volunteered effort by credible researchers, developers and practitioners
- Soliciting external reviewers
- Scheduled release May 2009
- DTA roundtable session in TRB planning application conference
- Four TMIP webinar planned for 2009

■ Demonstration activities

□ FHWA DTA program

- Past and ongoing deployment projects

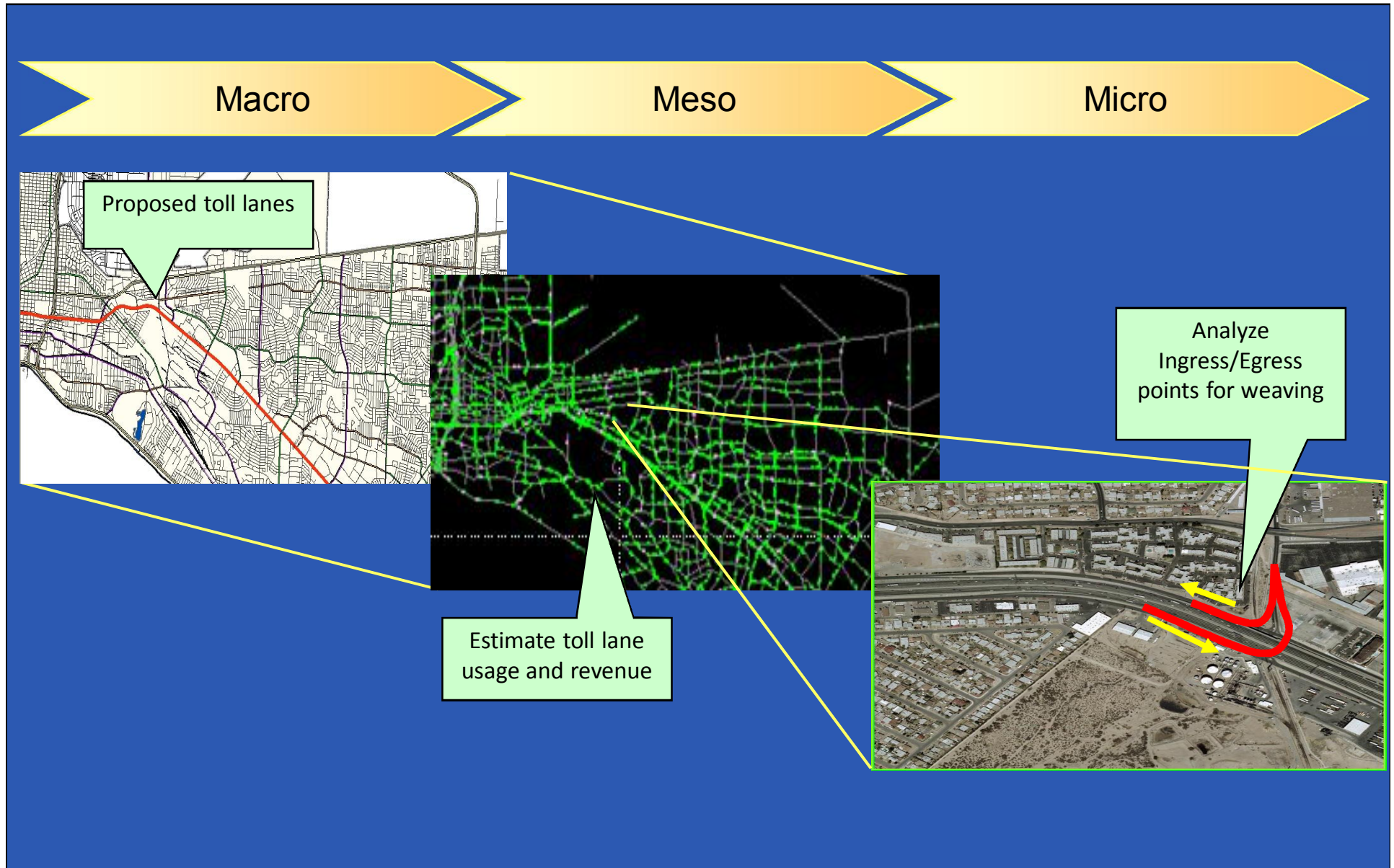
- 1 Why Dynamic Traffic Assignment
 - 1.1 From Transportation Planning Perspectives
 - 1.2 From Traffic Engineering Perspectives
- 2 Dynamic Traffic Assignment in a Nutshell
 - 2.1 Instantaneous and Experienced Travel Times
 - 2.2 Static versus Dynamic Models
 - 2.3 Defining Quality of DTA Model Outputs
 - 2.4 Extended Discussions
 - 2.4.1 One-Shot Simulation with Statically or Dynamically Updated Path Assignment
 - 2.4.2 Disequilibrium versus Non-convergence
 - 2.5 Brief Literature Review
- 3 Decision Making for Applying DTA Tools
 - 3.1 What Applications Find DTA Models Advantageous?
 - 3.2 What to Expect from DTA Models
 - 3.3 Cautions for using DTA Models
 - 3.4 Decision Making for Selecting DTA Models
 - 3.5 Planning for Applying DTA
- 4 General Modeling Process
 - 4.1 Dataset Preparation
 - 4.2 Characterizing the Results of a DTA Run
 - 4.3 Model Validation and Calibration
 - 4.3.1 Qualitative Analysis (Validation/Quality Assurance)
 - 4.3.2 Quantitative Analysis
 - 4.3.3 Calibration Methodology
 - 4.3.4 Measuring Calibration Quality
 - 4.4 Scenario Analysis
 - 4.5 System Monitoring and Re-calibration
- 5 References
- 6 Index



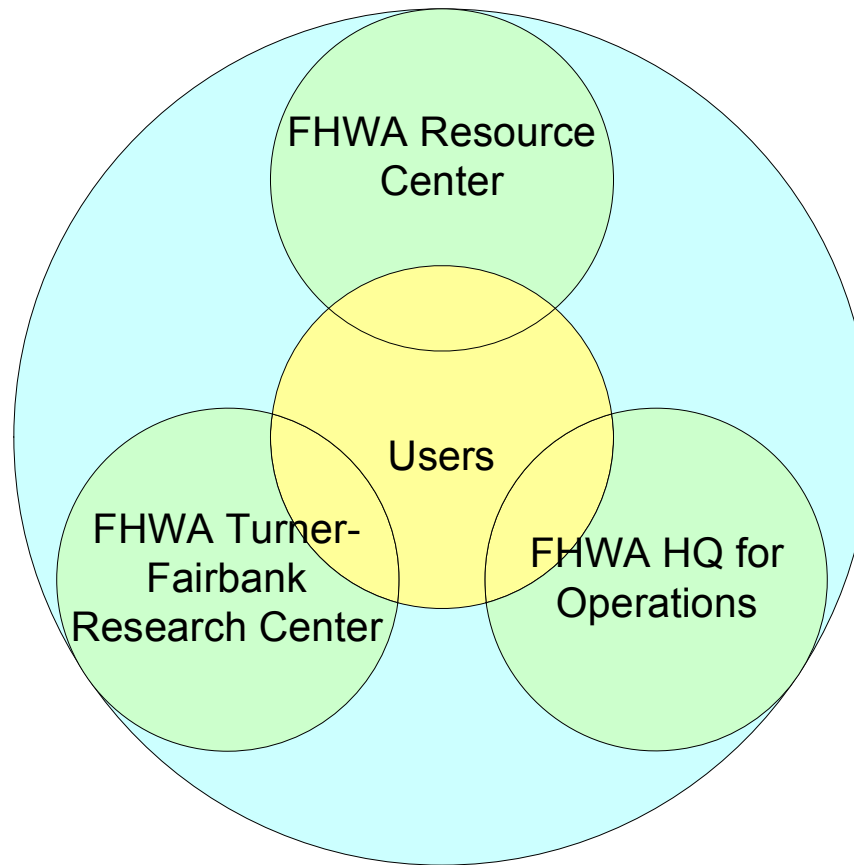
FHWA DTA Program

- Started in 1995
- Two parallel tracks
 - Real-time traffic estimation and prediction for ITS
 - Transportation operational planning
- Linking planning and operations
 - Concept of “Operational Planning”
- Fill-in on the traffic analysis tool gap
 - Macroscopic (static, regional) – mesoscopic (dynamic, regional) – microscopic (dynamic, corridor)
- Integration with TDM and microscopic model
 - Versatile modeling capabilities
 - Leverage existing investment in models

Concept of Multi-Resolution Modeling Approach



FHWA Support Structure



Program Activities

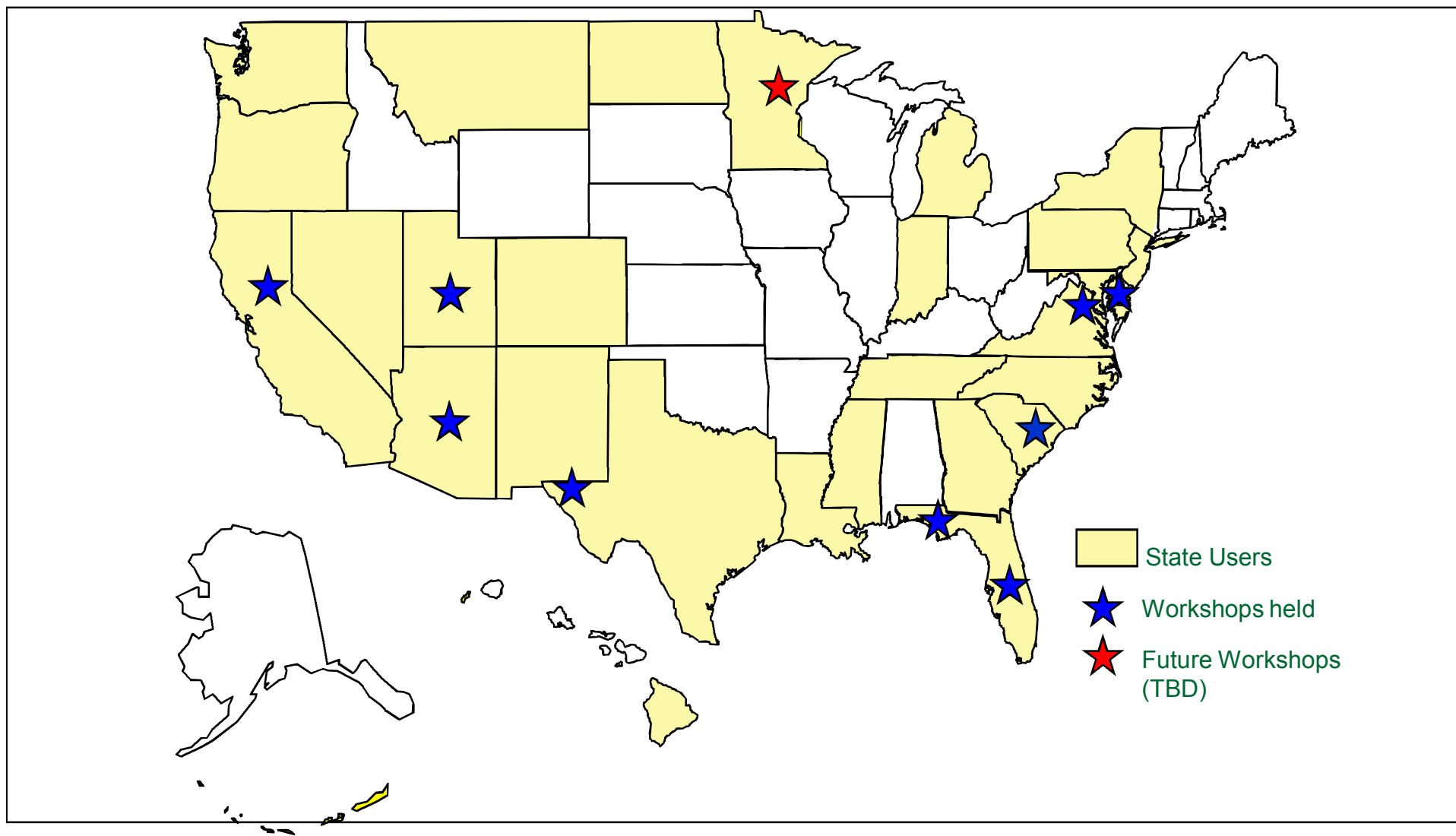
■ DTA concept education and outreach

- Webinars (online) – several per year
- Short seminar (0.5-1 day) – on demand
- Workshops (2.5 day) – 2 to 3 per year

■ Technical support to state agencies

- MPO/DOT > FHWA division > Resource center > FHWA HQ or TFHRC
- Educational Support
 - Training for DTA concepts
- Modeling Support
 - Assist in initial modeling and dataset buildup (DYNASMART-P/DynusT)
 - Can be extended to consultants for a federally funded project
 - Matching-fund may be needed if more involvement is requested

Outreach Status (March 2009)



Existing Users

- 30 states
- 11 nations
 - Canada, Greece, Taiwan, Italy, Trinidad, Netherlands, Israel, Senegal, South Korea, China (Olympics), & Indonesia
- DYNASMART-P – available through McTrans (Univ. of Florida)
- DynusT – free available for DYNASMART-P users (Univ. of Arizona)
- Support for both provided

Past/Ongoing Projects



■ El Paso, Texas (2003- present)

- ❑ IH-10 Corridor improvement
- ❑ Interchange design alternatives
- ❑ City bypass tolling analysis
- ❑ Bi-national Port-of-Entry modeling
- ❑ Long-range planning

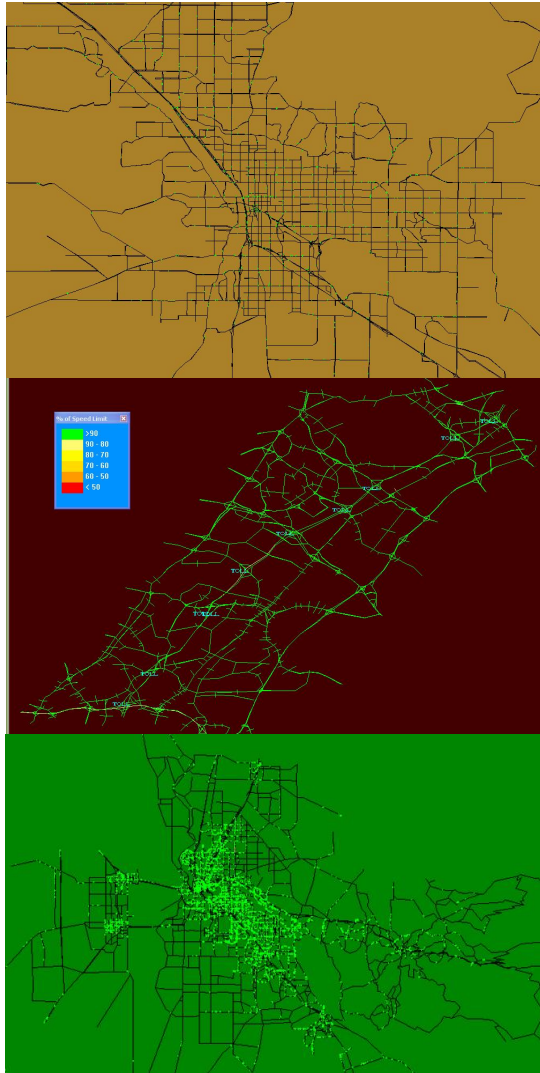


■ Guam (2008 – present)

- ❑ Military deployment transportation system impacts
- ❑ Island-wide Haul Road system analysis and design
- ❑ Traffic impact and management strategies



Past/Ongoing Projects



■ Tucson (2008-present)

- ❑ Regional Modeling (Z870, N3,5k, L8.7k, 2.9 GB, 12hr for 20 iter, 24hr SA)



■ Baltimore-D.C. Beltway (2008-present)

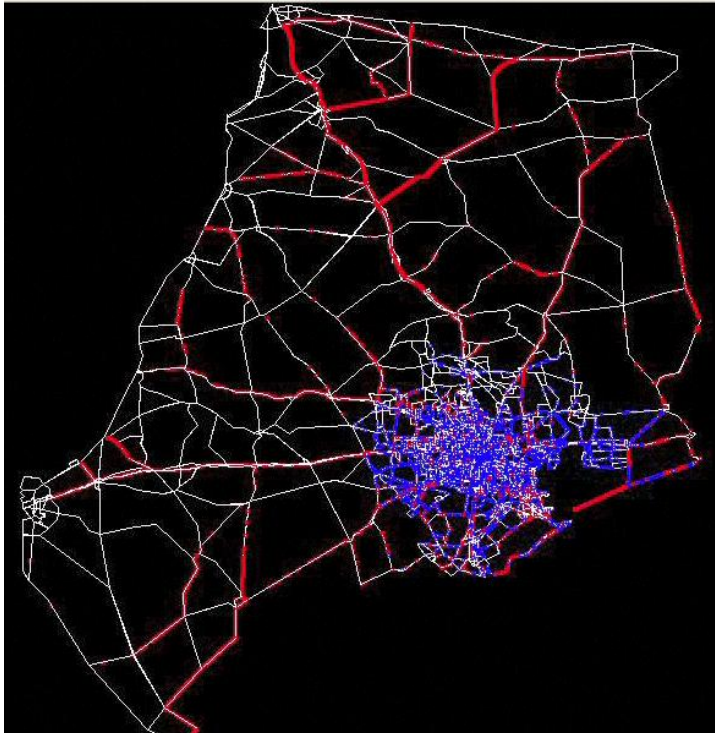
- ❑ Value pricing



■ Sacramento (2004-2006)

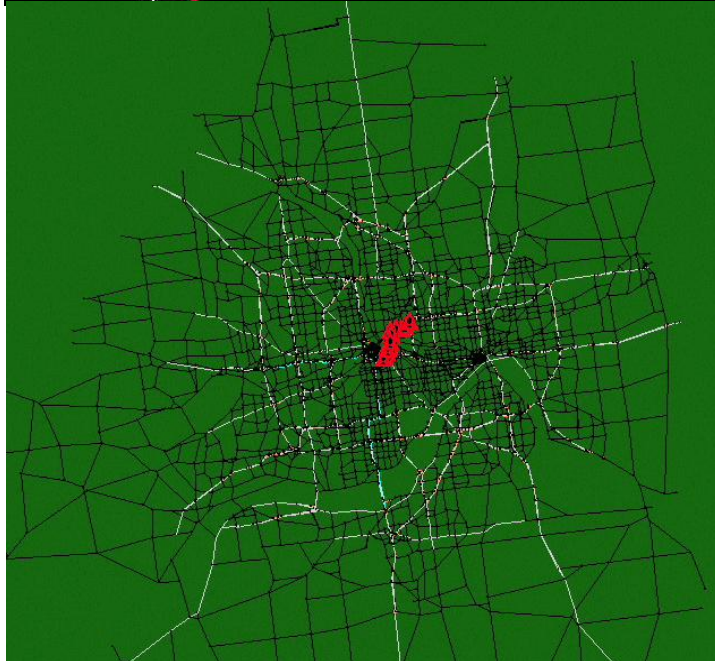
- ❑ Air quality analysis (Z1.2k, N5k, L12k, 2.8GB, 24 hr sim-assign,





■ Central Texas (2006)

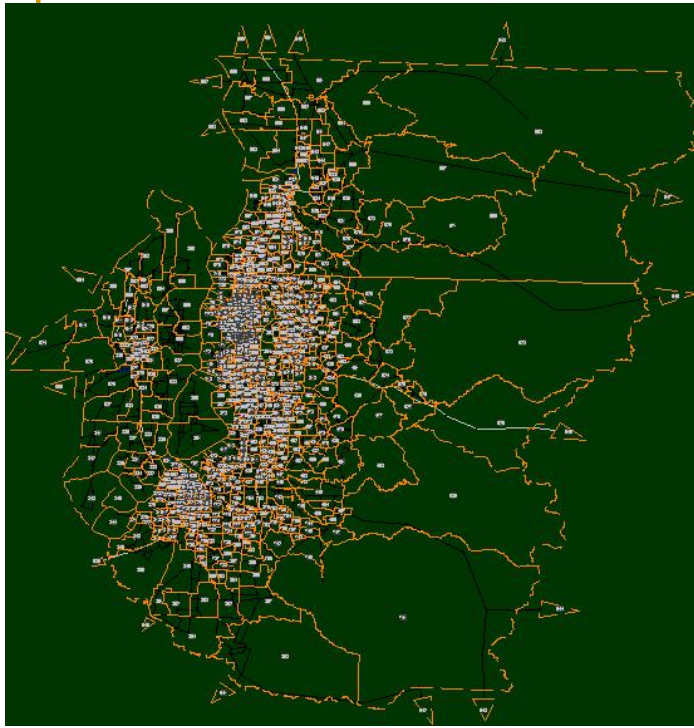
- ❑ Hurricane regional evacuation
- ❑ Contra-flow and phase evacuation



■ Twin-City (2007-present)

- ❑ I-35 bridge collapse traffic diversion analysis
- ❑ Integrated Corridor Management (ICM)





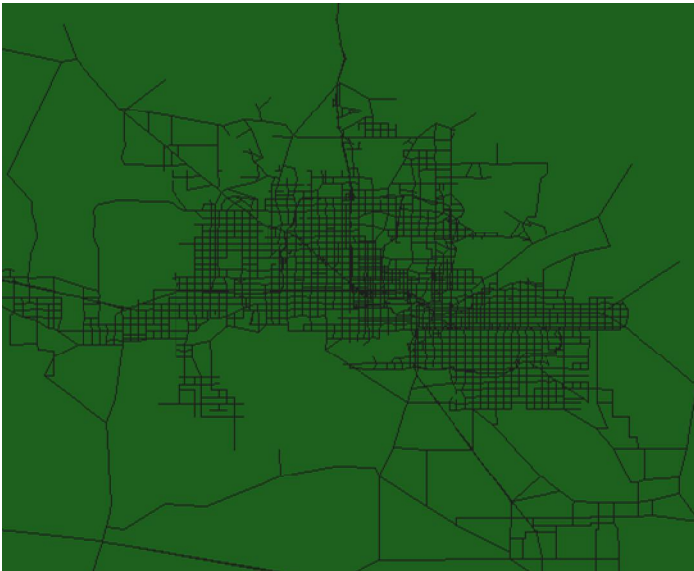
■ PSRC (2008-present)

- ❑ Test bed for integrated framework (Z1k, N6k, L1.5k, 1GB, 6 hr)
 - Land use (UrbanSim)
 - Activity-based model (AMOS)
 - DTA (DynusT/MALTA)

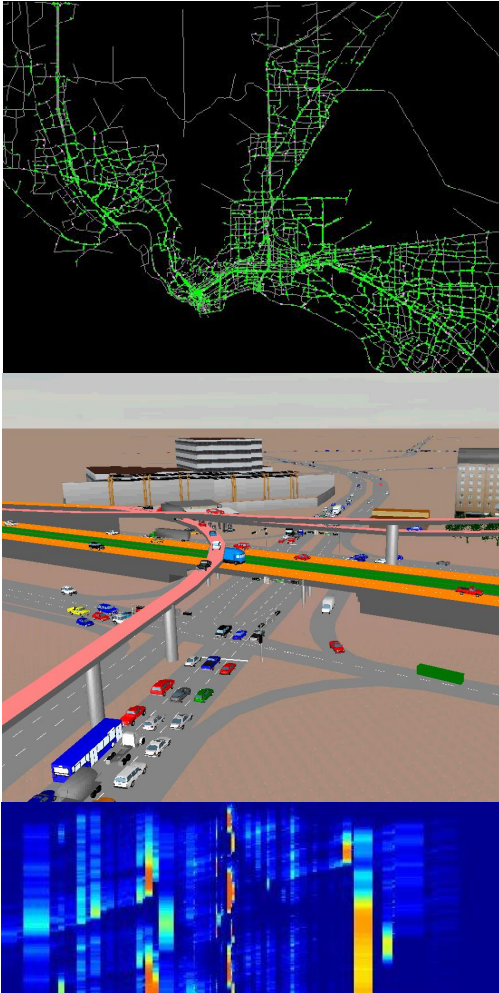


■ MAG (2009-present)

- ❑ Integrated Corridor System Management (Z2k, N4.5k, L12k, 1.5GB, 24hr for 20 iter, 12 hrs SA)
- ❑ Cardinal Game evacuation
- ❑ Flooding evacuation

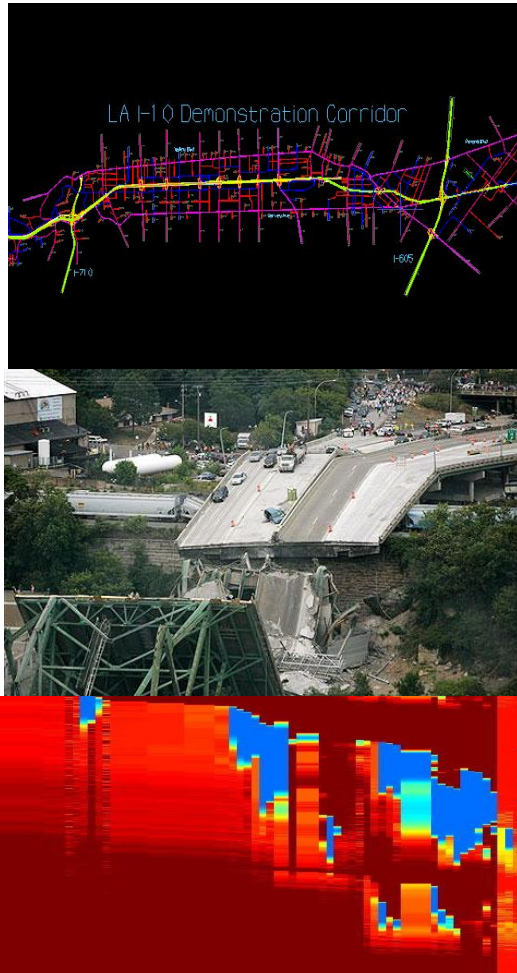


Summary of Recent Projects



- IH corridor improvement (North Carolina, 2003-present)
- IH tolling and congestion pricing (ELP, TX-2003-present)
- IH work zone planning (ELP, TX-2004)
- Evacuation operational Planning (HOU, TX, 2007, Baltimore, MD, 2005, Knoxville, TN, 2003)
- Downtown improvement (ELP, TX, 2004)
- ICM AMS modeling (Bay Area, CA, 2006-present)
- Florida turnpike system traffic and evacuation analysis (FDOT Turnpike)

Summary of On-going Efforts



- Military deployment transportation improvement in Guam (PB, FHWA)
- Value pricing (ORNL, FHWA; SRF, Mn/DOT, TTI, TxDOT)
- Evacuation operational planning (UA, ADOT; LSU, LDOT; Noblis, FHWA; Univ. of Toronto, TTI, TxDOT)
- Integrated Corridor Management modeling (CS, FHWA, MAG)
- Bay area regional modeling (CS, MTC)
- Regional Modeling (PAG)
- Land use-activity-based model-DTA integration (UW, ASU, UA, FHWA)

Further Inquiries

■ FHWA

□ Resource Center

- Ed Fok, Edward.Fok@fhwa.dot.gov
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■ Other References

- Available upon request